

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 24TH MARCH 2010

PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

REPORT OF THE SERVICE HEAD,
DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

SUMMARY

- 1. The Council's constitution provides that a maximum of six deputations and petitions in total are received at any meeting. These are taken in order of receipt within each category. This report sets out the valid petitions and deputations submitted by members of the public for presentation at the Council meeting on Wednesday 24th March 2010.
- 2. The deadline for receipt of deputations and petitions for this meeting is noon on Thursday 18th March 2010. However at the time of agenda despatch the maximum number of six items have already been received as overleaf.
- 3. In each case the members of the deputation/petitioners may address the meeting for no more than three minutes. Members may then question the deputation/petitioners for a further three minutes. The relevant Lead Member or Chair of Committee may then respond to the deputation or petition for up to three minutes.
- 4. Any outstanding issues will be referred to the relevant Corporate Director for attention who will respond to those outstanding issues in writing within 28 days.
- 5. Members should confine their contributions to questions and answers and not make statements or attempt to debate.

5.1 PETITIONS

Three petitions have been received as set out below:-

5.1.1 Petition from Mr. Terry McGrenera and others regarding postal votes:

"We wish to petition Tower Hamlets Council regarding the matter of postal voting. This matter has particular urgency with the local elections being held in May as well as the general election. We are concerned that the system, as in 2006 will be abused unless every application is checked."

5.1.2 Petition from Ms. Janet Wade and others regarding the future use of Habanos Wine Bar, Bonner St, E2:

"We, the undersigned, would like to complain about the lack of action by the Council in relation to the future use of Habanos wine bar (previously the City of Paris PH).

Residents would like to see the Council use their position as the freeholder of the premises, and as the relevant body for planning, licensing and enforcement, to secure a more appropriate future for the premises which will be sustainable and have a positive rather than negative impact on the area."

5.1.3 Petition from Deborah Coughlin and others regarding use of 2 Jubilee Street, E1 by Turangalila:

"We believe that the best solution for the vacant Tower Hamlets Council building, 2 Jubilee Street, is a community solution.

We believe the best community solution that has been proposed to Tower Hamlets Council is by the organisation Turangalila who are uniquely placed to promote creativity in East London, focused on engaging the young, elderly and those with mental health issues.

2 Jubilee Street is a Tower Hamlets Building that has remained vacant since 2007.

In 2008, Turangalila engaged Tower Hamlets and proposed a unique scheme, created by the local community, including local creative professionals and businesses, with the support of partnership groups and community leaders.

This scheme would provide:

- 16 affordable artists/creative industries studios
- 2 large multi-use spaces for exhibition, performance and community groups
- Music, film, soft 3D and hard 3D workshops/studios

- A healthy affordable café with smaller meeting rooms for one to one help, reading programs etc.

Turangalila also sourced creative professionals willing to give their time for a programme of skills building workshops aimed at the young, elderly and those with mental health issues.

Turangalila provided Tower Hamlets with architectural plans, works schedule and funding strategy, yet 2 Jubilee Street remains disused, wasted and vulnerable to anti-social behaviour.

We want Tower Hamlets to give Turangalila short, mid-term or permanent use of 2 Jubilee Street so that our community can have these facilities, resources and to give more people the opportunity to gain skills, experience and the tools to work in the creative industries."

5.2 **DEPUTATIONS**

Three deputations have been received as set out below:-

5.2.1 Deputation from Stephen Foster and others regarding resident parking permits for 62-80 Swaton Road, E3 (Motion 11.11 refers)

"We, the undersigned, want the London Borough of Tower Hamlets Council to agree that the car free agreement should be discharged under Section 106 (1)(a) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and allow the relevant residents to continue to be granted permanent parking and visitors permits. Were they not to continue to be granted permits, the residents will suffer and have a significant impact on their livelihood."

5.2.2 Deputation from Mr. Azur Uddin and others opposing a clamping system for John Smith Mews (Motions 11.5 and 11.18 refer)

"We, the undersigned residents of John Smith Mews, very strongly object to the car clamping system and permit regime that was to have been unilaterally introduced on John Smith Mews by One Housing Group from 16th January 2010. We are completely happy with the existing key and gate system and see absolutely no reason why this system should be changed. We also do not believe that proper consultation has taken place with residents over this matter by One Housing Group and that false information has been used by One Housing Group to justify the changes to the parking regime. We want the clamping system immediately and permanently withdrawn and a return to the original system pending further negotiations with One Housing Group."

5.2.3 Deputation from Mr. Sid Shine and others regarding the Crown Estate (Motions 11.8 and 11.10 refer)

"We, residents of the Crown Estate, oppose the sell off of our homes and call on Tower Hamlets Council to support us in our opposition."